

1, — THE EARUEJST TIDING^
OF THE IN

WILLIAM HAWKINS^ junior 5
Esq,₅ Governor of
Plymouth .

[6V*/. 294.]

*Letter^ on ^rd December •,
1568^ to Sir*

*W I L L I A M C E c i L j informing
him of
Spanish reports of the
destruction of
his brother's Fleet in the Indies.*

[This letter may be taken as indubitable evidence of the kind intentions of the Spaniards in respect of JOHN HAWKINS'S fleet, should they be able to carry them out ; for it was not possible that any news of the treachery and tragedy at San Juan de Ulua of the previous 23rd September, could have got to Spain, and from thence to London, and so to Plymouth, in the seventy- two days which had since elapsed. DRAKE (in the *Judith*, a good sailer, *p.* 210, and coming straight home from the scene of the catastrophe), did not reach Plymouth till the 22nd January following, *t.e* , fifty days later than the date of tins letter.]

[State Pa.j><r\$. Domestic. EUZAB3TH Vol
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MY BOUNDEN duty always had in remembrance. It may please your Honour to be advertised that there was certain news declared unto me by Master WILLIAM WYNTER, Esquire, and he should hear [*had heard*] it of BENEDICK SPINOLA, of a letter he should [*had*] received out of Spain. GOD forbid it should be true! I hope it is but as the Spaniard would havfe it.

The news should be [*was*] that my brother, JOHN HAWKINS, was constrained to land, and to travel far into the land, to make his traffic : and so by a great number of men should be entrapped, and all put to the sword ; with a great loss to the Spaniards also.